

Your Lake Association

(What it is and what it isn't)

What it is!

The Barlow Lake Association has been around at least since the early 1950's. Based on reviewing past copies of Association newsletters, meeting minutes and ledgers it appears the intent and purpose of the Association is to maintain and improve Barlow Lake and the "Barlow Lake" experience for the association members. This intent has been put into practice over the years through many of the same activities we see today.

Such as:

1. Fireworks – Earl Krol (on July 4th or the first Saturday in July)
2. Boat Parade – Joan Lutke
3. Fishing Contest and Planting – Mike Moerman
4. Newsletter & Directory – Karen Hale (Area Captains distribute)
5. Area Bulletin Boards – Lake Association & Lake Residents
6. Welcome Committee – Wendy Loveless
7. Water Testing – Alan & Cindy Hooker
8. Invasive Weed Control – Progressive AE, Environmental Consultant – Luke Aaron
9. Annual YMCA Camp Picnic – Camp Manitou-Lin, Donna Cook/Deb M.
10. Barlow Lake Facebook Page – Ryan Asbury
11. Barlowlakemi.com Web Site – Ryan Asbury
12. Annual Meetings – June and August

The activities shown above are paid for with the \$40/year dues we all pay. About 80% of the almost 233 Lake Association Members pay their dues each year. Over half of the members also give extra toward fireworks and/or fish planting. It is easy to forget to pay these voluntary dues which is something that happens to all of us occasionally. The dues invoice comes attached to the spring newsletter and requested payment deadline is June 30, payable by check or emailed invoice.

In addition to the activities listed above, the Lake Association provides a sense of community that is hard to prove or describe but would be missed if there wasn't an Association. The Board is made up of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

What it is Not!

The Barlow Lake Association is not a homeowners association or a condominium owners association and it is certainly not a governmental body. The Association only directs how the money voluntarily paid as dues to the Association is spent, holds two Association meetings, creates two newsletters, maintains the Association directory, etc. The Association does not own any property and as such does not have the ability or responsibility to control or maintain any property around Barlow Lake or elsewhere.

We are fortunate that our lake does not have any major problems and the Lake Association can focus on the enjoyable and beneficial activities listed above.